

DC-CAS: PERFORMANCE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS



Reading Grade 10

The DC-CAS is a standards-based assessment. Based on performance, each student is classified as performing at one of four performance levels: advanced, proficient, basic, or below basic. The descriptions below provide a brief summary of typical performance for each level. The skills identified in each descriptor represent, but are not all-inclusive of, the skills a student is able to demonstrate at each performance level.

Below Basic

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as determining meanings of words when given specific context. Students are able to read some tenth grade informational and literary texts and can demonstrate a minimal understanding of main idea and details that support it, identify author's stated purpose, draw conclusions based on literal reading of text, identify differences among explicitly stated details, paraphrase a statement, summarize a simple narrative, identify the relationship between character and setting, and identify a stated detail in a poem for a specific purpose.

Basic

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as using context clues to determine meanings of words and interpreting figurative language that uses simple, familiar words. Students are able to read some tenth grade informational and literary texts and can identify the main idea and author's purpose, draw conclusions based on stated details, make simple inferences, identify relationships among stated ideas, summarize a narrative poem, identify character traits and motivation, make simple predictions about characters, draw conclusions about how a character resolves a conflict, and make connections between real life and characters in texts.

Proficient

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as using context and grammar clues to determine definitions of multiple-meaning words and distinguishing between literal and implied meanings of words. Students are able to read tenth grade, complex informational and literary texts and can identify details that support a main idea, draw and support conclusions based on text, identify and explain author's purpose, make and support inferences, respond to clarifying questions about text, analyze subtly stated relationships among ideas, identify and explain author's use of literary devices, explain how author's word choice illustrates an idea or concept, and determine how point of view and language affect reader interpretation of text.

Advanced

Students are able to use vocabulary skills, such as determining meaning of words in challenging texts (e.g., poetry, allegory) by using context clues, analytic deduction, and prior knowledge. Students are able to read tenth grade, complex informational and literary texts and can analyze and cite text elements that support a main idea, explain author's implied purpose, synthesize concepts across text, analyze interrelationships among concepts and ideas, interpret subtle statements made by characters, analyze the theme and meaning of a literary text, interpret figurative language, and explain the implied motivations of character(s).

DC-CAS: PERFORMANCE LEVEL DESCRIPTORS



Mathematics Grade 10

The DC-CAS is a standards-based assessment. Based on performance, each student is classified as performing at one of four performance levels: advanced, proficient, basic, or below basic. The descriptions below provide a brief summary of typical performance for each level. The skills identified in each descriptor represent, but are not all-inclusive of, the skills a student is able to demonstrate at each performance level.

Below Basic

Students may be able to perform computations with decimals, perform appropriate numeric operations, not always in correct sequence, and apply linear formulas (formulae) to partially solve real world problems; may be able to identify simple patterns; may be able to identify different types of angles, and use scale drawings to represent data and use tools to determine measurements.

Basic

Students perform computations with decimals and rationals having common denominators, perform appropriate numeric operations in correct sequence, and apply linear formulas (formulae) to solve real world problems; identify and extend simple patterns, evaluate simple expressions, and solve simple (one-step) equations; identify and measure different types of angles, and use scale drawings to represent data and solve measurement problems in one or two dimensions for which the solution is easily recognized and straight forward.

Proficient

Students perform computations with decimals and unrestricted rationals, perform operations on numbers and variables in correct sequence, create and apply linear formulas (formulae) to solve real world problems; identify and extend patterns, evaluate expressions requiring ordered operations, and solve linear equations that may require multiple steps; use properties of parallel lines, plain polygons, and transversals to identify and determine angles in figures not drawn to scale; and use graphs, scale drawings, and histograms to represent data and solve measurement problems in one, two, or three dimensions.

Advanced

Students perform computations with real numbers (decimals, unrestricted rationals and surds), perform operations on numbers and variables in correct sequence; create and apply linear and non-linear formulas (formulae) to solve real world problems; identify, extend, and interpolate patterns, evaluate expressions requiring ordered and embedded operations, and use a variety of methods to solve linear, non-linear, and simultaneous equations; use properties of parallel lines, plain polygons, and transversals to identify and determine angles and measures of unknown sides in figures not drawn to scale; and use graphs, properties of graphs, scale drawings, and histograms to represent data and solve measurement problems in one, two, or three dimensions where unit conversion is required.